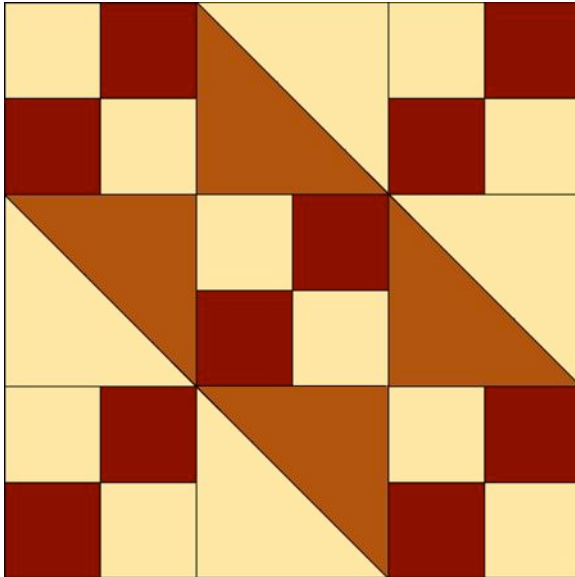


Jacob's Ladder



This is a very easy block, suitable for a beginning quilter. It is made from two units: a triangle unit and a “4-patch” unit.

You can be make this block scrappy (with many fabrics) or with only two or three. In the illustration, I’ve used three.

2 – 2”x 10” rectangles in a light fabric

2 – 2”x 10” rectangles in darker fabric

5 – 4½” squares in a light fabric

5 – 4½” squares in a darker fabric

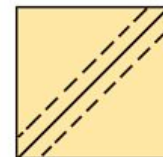
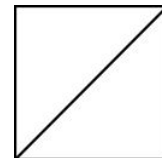
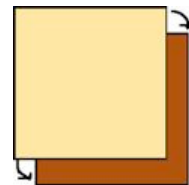
The directions below are for a single block. The finished size is 9”.

Directions

To construct “Unit A”

“Unit A” refers to the 4 squares around the outer edge that feature triangles dividing them corner to corner. These are called “half-square triangles.”

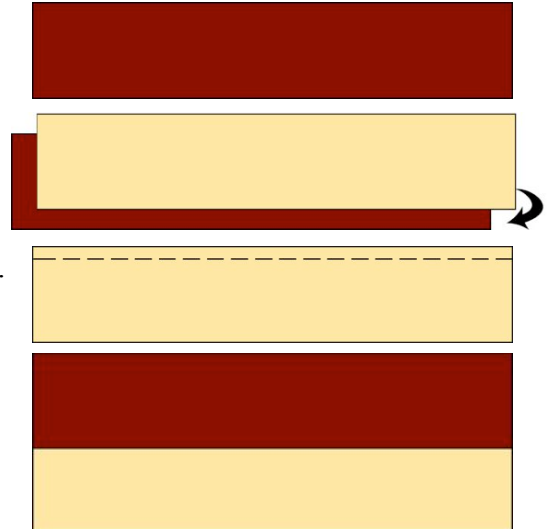
1. Lay one of the 4” squares in the darker fabric face up on your work surface.
2. Lay one of the 4” squares in the lighter fabric face down on top of it, completely aligned on all sides.
3. Draw a diagonal line from the upper left corner to the upper right corner.
4. Sew ¼” from both sides of the line.
5. Cut the block in two down the line.
6. Open and press towards the darker fabric.
7. Trim each unit to 3 ½” square.
(Be sure to keep the points of the triangles when you trim!)
8. Repeat with the remaining 4” squares
(You will end up with 4 of these units.)



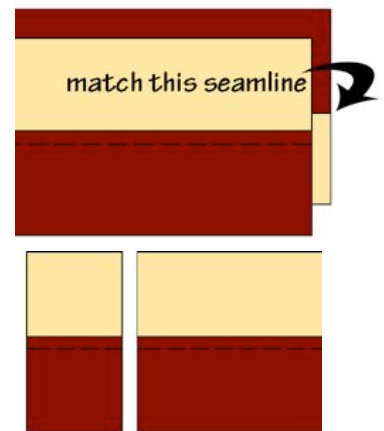
To construct “Unit B”

“Unit B” refers to the five units divided into four squares in the illustration. These are called “4-patch” units.

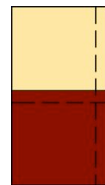
9. Lay one of the 2”x 12” rectangles in the darker fabric face up on your work surface.
10. Lay one of the 2”x 12” rectangles in the lighter fabric face down on top of it, completely aligned on all sides.
11. Sew a ¼” seam from one of the long sides.
12. Repeat steps 9 – 11 with the other two strips.
13. Open and press towards the darker fabric



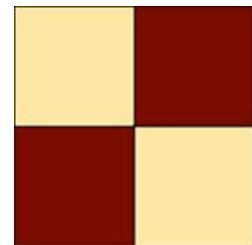
14. Lay one 2-strip units face up on your work surface.
15. Lay the second unit face down, that the dark fabric is lying on top of the light fabric beneath it. *(The seam allowance for the strips should “nest”, i.e. one seam allowance should be towards the top of the strip set, the other, towards the bottom, reducing bulk.)*
16. Cut the strips in 2” increments, but DO NOT SEPARATE! *(There should be 5 sets.)*



17. Sew each unit.



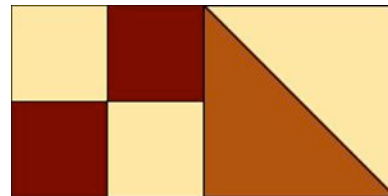
18. Open and press *(You will end up with five 4-patch units.)*



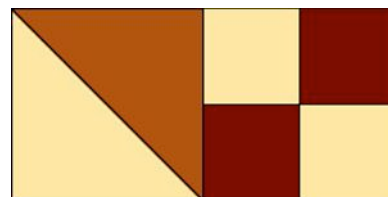
Block Construction

You now have all the elements needed to make this block. What follows are basic instructions on how to turn your units into the Jacob's Ladder block using the same techniques as you would to sew a "9-patch" block.

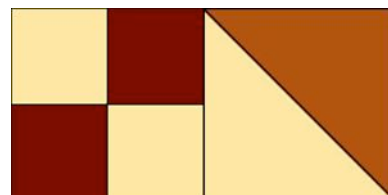
16. Sew one 4-patch unit to the left side of a half-square triangle unit, both units facing together, keeping the light fabric in the triangle-unit block to the top and the top dark square of the 9-patch towards the triangle unit.



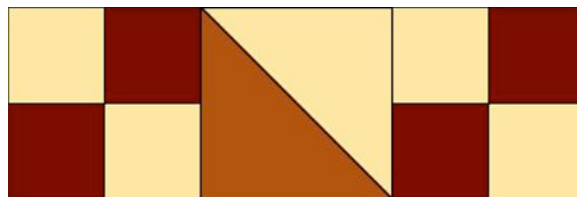
17. Sew one triangle unit to the left of one four patch unit, both units facing together, keep the *dark* fabric of the triangle unit towards the top and the *light* side of the 4-patch unit towards the triangle unit. (Yes, this is opposite step 16.)



18. Sew one 4-patch unit to the left side of a half-square triangle unit, both units facing together, the same as you did in step 16.

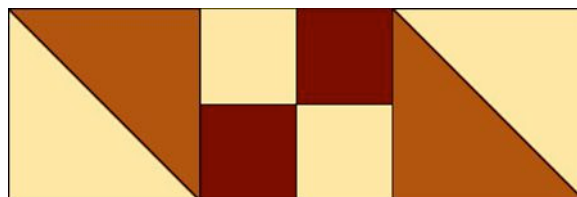


19. Sew 4-patch unit to the right side of the unit produced in step 16, both units facing together, keep the *light* fabric of the triangle unit towards the top and the *light* side of the 4-patch unit towards the triangle unit.



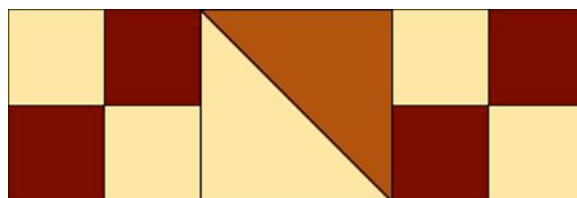
You will end up with a unit of 4-patch, triangle unit, 4-patch.

20. Sew one triangle unit to the right side of the unit produced in step 17. The first triangle unit should have the dark side up and the dark square of the 4-patch to the outside, but the second triangle unit should have the *light* square to the top.

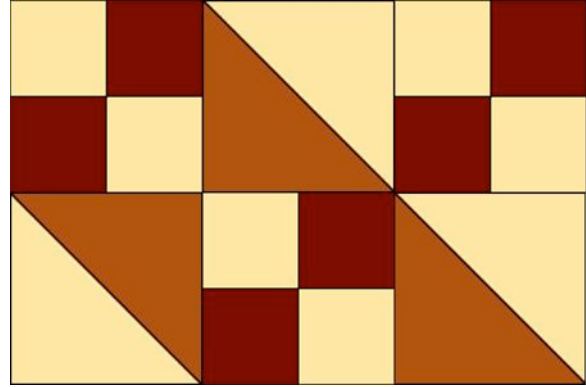


You will end up with a strip of triangle unit, 4-patch unit, triangle unit, as pictured.

21. Sew the last 4-patch to the right side unit produced in step 18, right sides together, the upper dark square of the .
You will end up with a unit that is the "flipped" version of the one you produced in step 19.



22. Sew the strip unit produced in step 19, to the long unit produced in step 20, units facing each other.



23. Sew the strip unit produced in the last step to bottom of the strip unit produced in step 21, units facing each other
24. Press and you're done!